

For Immediate Release

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Indiana Artisan Products Featured in Holiday Giveaway on VisitIndiana.com

INDIANAPOLIS (November 23, 2009) — The Indiana Office of Tourism Development wants to help holiday shoppers who are looking for a unique gift. "Made in Indiana. Given by You." is a holiday promotion on VisitIndiana.com that offers a chance to win one of 12 gifts showcasing work from artisans recognized by Indiana Artisan. Each of the gifts features exceptional art or food created by Hoosier artisans whose work has met exceptionally high standards in terms of craftsmanship and taste. To sign up for a chance to win, log on to VisitIndiana.com through December 14 and click on the special holiday giveaway section of the homepage. Winners can choose to have the gift sent to them or sent directly to someone special in time for the holidays.

"Supporting local artisans is important, especially during the holiday shopping season," said Lt. Governor Becky Skillman. "This is a great opportunity for people to see the quality handmade products made by artisans across Indiana."

Indiana artisans and their products being offered in the giveaway include:

Mark Grosser	Jewelry	Carmel
John Bower	Six photography books featuring Indiana	Bloomington
Nancy Miller	Gourd container	Indianapolis
Mercedes Brugh	Earrings and nail file	Logansport
Dorrel Harrison	Normandy Barn Plaque	Scottsburg
Amy Greely	Earrings and necklace set	Nashville
Teri Barnett	Unframed 8x10 acrylic painting	Indianapolis
Daren Redman	Handbag	Nashville
Chris Gustin	Recycled floor rug	Columbus
Peg Neal	Ceramics	Zionsville
The Sisters of St. Benedict	"Simply Devine" cookies	Ferdinand

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Indiana Artisan gift basket Features several artisan products

Hickoryworks, hickory syrup; Brooke's Candy Company, toffee and fudge; Sandy's Peanut Brittle, half-pound of peanut brittle; Salt Creek Valley Farm, old-fashioned green relish and holiday jam; Grace Island, baked cheese crisps; 240° Sweet, assorted handmade marshmallows; Uncle Henry's Candies, peanut clusters and turtles.

<u>Indiana Artisan</u> is an economic development program that supports Hoosier entrepreneurs and expands small businesses through initiatives that identify, support and promote select works of handcrafted art and food. The program is a joint venture of the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs, the Indiana Office of Tourism Development, the Indiana State Department of Agriculture, and the Indiana Arts Commission.

More information about Indiana Artisan is available at IndianaArtisan.org.

Lt. Gov. Becky Skillman oversees the Indiana Office of Tourism Development. Amy Vaughan serves as the agency's director.

<u>Editor's Note</u>: Digital images of some giveaway products are available for downloading at the following link: http://www.in.gov/tourism/media/artisanphotos.html.

Please credit the Indiana Office of Tourism Development.